(Rs. in Crore)

3.	Issue of Bonds for Rs. 4023 crore (at average coupon rate of 7.14%) [saving for one month w.e.f. march' 05]	6.23
4.	Other fiscal measures taken for streamlining financial operations	29.50
	TOTAL:	915.73

Closed sugar mills in Madhya Pradesh

†327. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of those sugar mills which are lying closed in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the assistance provided to the State to restart these mills and the number of mills which have been made operational by now;

(c) whether the action plan has been made by Government for those workers who have become unemployed due to the closure of these mills;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The number of sugar mills which remained closed in Madhya Pradesh during the last three sugar seasons were as under:—

Sugar Season (Oct.-Sep.)	No. of closed mills
2002-03	05
2003-04	05
2004-05	05

(b) to (e) It is the responsibility of the entrepreneur to take steps to reopen/revive the closed sugar mills. The sick mills belonging to private

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and public sectors are covered under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA). Such sugar mills are required to make a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) whenever their accumulated losses become equal to or more than the net-worth. If the rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR provide for any relief/concession from this Ministry, the scheme is considered as per the existing guidelines. In addition, as regards the cooperative sugar mills a Committee is constituted by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution) which considers the proposals of the potentially viable sick sugar mills of this sector. The interests of workers employed in sick/ closed sugar undertakings are protected by owner/promoters and State Governments (in case of PSUs) as per the relevant Acts and Regulations.

Forced deposits in cooperative sugar mills by Farmers in Maharashtra

328. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several cooperative sugar mills in Maharashtra have been enforcing deductions from due payments of farmers supplying sugarcane, as deposits to be utilized for modernization/expansion of mills and promising refunds thereof with interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including identity of the mills which collected such deposits and the total sums collected by each;

(c) the details of mills which carried out modernization/expansion;

(d) the mills which have repaid deposits with interest to respective sugarcane suppliers and those who defaulted to repay indicating the sums outstanding against each mills; and

(e) the action taken against defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Government of Maharashtra have informed that some cooperative sugar mills in the State have been enforcing deductions from the due payment of farmers supplying sugarcane as deposits to be utilized